OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Christopher M. Reber, Ph. D.



August 14, 2020

Dear Members of the HCCC Family,

I hope this note finds you and your families healthy and safe! I am excited that some students, faculty and staff will be returning to campus in the coming weeks. Although most of our courses will continue to be delivered remotely, some of us will begin to see one another in person. I have started working from my office at 70 Sip, and it feels good to be back on the campus again!

We continue to make progress in our plans for the fall semester. There are many true heroes in our HCCC community, and I thank all members of our College community for their strong support and dedication to our students and College. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be helpful in any way.

Earlier this week, Governor Murphy issued a new Executive Order that eases some restrictions for higher education as long as social distancing, wearing of masks, and other safety measures remain in place. The new Executive Order allows all instruction to be offered on ground with proper safety precautions. Although we are pleased that our state and community seem to be moving in the right direction, we do not anticipate any significant changes in our Return to Campus (RTC) plan for the fall semester. We remain committed to offering approximately 85% of our courses online or remotely, with select instruction and support services offered onground in areas of particular importance for student success.

As part of our RTC planning, there was significant discussion about air quality systems in HCCC facilities. I'm pleased to report that the College has already changed all air filters within the existing HVAC system. Further, after careful consideration, the College has invested in the installation of REME Halo in-duct air purifiers in the HVAC systems of every HCCC building. The REME Halo in-duct air purifier kills up to 99% of bacteria, mold, and viruses, and reduces sneeze germs by 99% in the time a sneeze can reach three feet. Further, the system kills 99% of viruses on surfaces. The installation of these systems has begun, but it appears that delays outside of our control, which are caused by pandemic demand, will extend the full installation into later September or October.

After consulting our professionals, HCCC has decided to further invest in and install new HW Deluxe 20600-3 air purifying systems campus-wide as an interim measure. The HW Deluxe removes 94% - 100% of harmful viruses, molds and bacteria. This technology is currently used in hospitals, medical clean rooms, and government buildings. And since the HW Deluxe is a portable system, installation will begin immediately and will be in place in every HCCC facility prior to the beginning of classes.

Let me add that the HW Deluxe units are not a replacement for the Halo system. Rather, they will provide additional redundancy protection once the Halo system is installed campus-wide. We continue to ensure that our safety protocols far exceed CDC and other health agency standards, and this combination of systems will provide even greater protection.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication. I wish you all the best for an enjoyable remainder of the summer. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Christopher M. Reber

President